



News to Use

November 2008

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GED® Target Goals

The 2008-09 statewide GED goal, as set by the Council on Postsecondary Education, is 10,939. This statewide goal will increase every year to achieve the 2020 goal of 15,000 GEDs. Please remember that, at this point, the county numbers are targets that each county needs to meet for Kentucky to accomplish its statewide goal. For now, KYAE has elected not to set county GED goals. Please [click here](#) to see county targets.

Program Directors Institute

Kentucky Adult Education hosted the 2008 Program Directors Fall Institute on August 21 and 22 at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. Program directors gathered important information on the new performance and accountability model, professional development and GED policies, program leadership, personnel and fiscal management, and much more! Institute presentations and the Program Director Handbook can be found on the [KYAE Web site](#).

Student Performance Funding Clarification

KYAE has received several questions recently related to the **Student Performance** funds and would like to provide clarification. In 2007-08, KYAE awarded **Student Success** funds to all local programs (federal funds that had not been expended in prior years) using our funding formula. **Student Success** funds were not directly tied to performance. These funds were ideally to be used for improving the adult student learning environment. **Student Success** funds could be used to buy technology, furniture and etc. to make the learning environment better equipped for student success and potentially more appealing to the adult students you serve. We asked programs to submit a budget for the **Student Success** funds for approval. We reviewed these and gave feedback to programs on their planned purchases. We did not award any **Student Success** funds for the 2008-09 program year.

Recently (2007-08) we introduced the **New Framework** which awarded **Student Performance Funding** to programs based on meeting student outcomes. The **Student Performance** funds

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were awarded for the first time in the 2008-09 contracts based on targeted student outcomes produced in the 2007-08 program year. We are not requesting a budget for the **Student Performance** funds in your contract this year. **Student Performance** funds are part of the county's overall Performance Funding (Program Performance Funding and Student Performance Funding). You may choose to spend **Performance** funds on:

- 1.) KYAE approved or sponsored training, instructional materials and equipment, advertising or facility improvements that do not include structural changes as defined in applicable federal circulars.
- 2.) Other expenditures in accordance with KYAE fiscal policies and procedures. Note that **Performance Funds** are non-recurring and dependent on performance each fiscal year.

You **may not** use the Performance Funds to:

- 1.) Pay bonuses for employees or incentives to students.

We hope this helps in your budgeting and planning related to Performance Funding. For more information on Performance Funding, please visit the [KYAE Web site](#). If you have further questions on Student Performance Funding or other fiscal questions please contact [Terry Pruitt](#), [Ashley Smither](#) or [Faith Cirre](#) by e-mail or at (502) 573-1555.

GED Tests Fee Increase

Kentucky Adult Education, Council on Postsecondary Education, has filed amendments to The GED Testing Program regulation, 785 KAR 1:010. The proposed amendment would increase the GED Tests fee over a three-year period to help test centers remain financially viable. The fee would increase from \$40 to \$50 in year one, \$55 in year two and \$60 in year three. Fees for partial testing or retesting would increase from \$10 to \$25 in the first year, remain at \$25 the second year and increase to \$30 in the third year. The first increases would take effect on July 1, 2009. [Click here](#) for the regulation as filed.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing on 785 KAR 1:010: GED® Testing Program shall be held on November 25, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Council on Postsecondary Education, Conference Room A. Individuals interested in being heard at this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by November 18, 2008, five working days prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be cancelled.

This hearing is open to the public. Any person who wishes to be heard will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made.

If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on the proposed administrative regulation.

Send written notification of intent to be heard at the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person.

CONTACT PERSON:

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Dr. Helton Honored with National Award

Dr. B. J. Helton, the GED Administrator for Kentucky and senior associate for adult education at the Council on Postsecondary Education, recently received the Distinguished Service Award by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education. This is one of the highest awards conferred by the GED Testing Service®.

The award honors a GED Administrator who has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the advancement of their state's GED testing program and has made outstanding national contributions through initiatives that advance support for GED candidates.

Helton received the award on July 17 at the GED Administrator's Conference in Sparks, Nevada. In her six years as GED administrator, Helton has diligently worked to bring all test centers into full compliance with GED regulations, developed an exemplary training program for GED examiners and encouraged improved passing rates. She also developed a new, more efficient process for students to request GED transcripts.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Helton on her award!

U.S.A. Learns Web site

The U.S. Department of Education recently launched a free [Web site](#) to help immigrants learn English. The site provides approximately 11 million adults with low levels of English proficiency with easily accessible and free English language training. The 2003 National Assessment of Adult Literacy documented that as many as 11 million adults in the U.S. are not literate in English. Currently, local providers are able to serve only approximately one million of those students annually, prompting the need for a Web site of this kind.

Users can click on directions in either English or Spanish and choose which English level they need -- beginner, low-intermediate or intermediate. Instruction in the modules is almost exclusively in English. In the beginner course, 20 units are offered in such areas as numbers, the calendar, places to go, families, schools, clothes, money and shopping. For intermediate students, more challenging exercises can help polish existing English reading and writing skills.

Workforce Alliance Funds Available

KYAE has Workforce Alliance funds available for workforce education projects. These funds are provided to accommodate employer requests and facilitate good local partnerships. Providers may apply [online](#) for Workforce Alliance grants.

Workforce education projects primarily provide services to entry-level, frontline employees of business and industry in Kentucky. Project participants must be individuals who lack sufficient mastery of workforce skills necessary to function successfully as workers.

Projects may include: short-term workforce learning (6-11 hours), workforce project learner (12-30 hours), workforce assessments, computer literacy and soft skills. [Click here](#) to view the Workforce Alliance Grant Guidelines.

If you have questions regarding Workforce Alliance funding or workplace activities, please feel free to contact Jim Thompson at Jim.Thompson@ky.gov or 502-573-5114, ext. 112.

AERIN Manual and Training Videos

The 2008-09 AERIN Data Manual is now posted on the [KYAE Web site](#). Three training videos are also posted regarding changes made to the test screen, enrollment screen and progress test screen. For questions regarding AERIN, please contact Terry Tackett at Terry.Tackett@ky.gov or Tammy Powers at Tammy.Powers@ky.gov.

OPT Testing for Special Populations

During the recent regional meetings, you received [GED Testing for Special Populations](#) instead of [OPT Testing for Special Populations](#). This document describes the process for administering the OPT to state agency children, KET students and GED Secondary Program students.

GED Testing Service Style Guide

In order to promote clear recognition of the GED Tests and credential, GED Testing Service® (GEDTS) has announced that GED and GEDTS are now registered trademarks. GEDTS has developed a style guide to assist adult educators in using the terms correctly with the appropriate trademark symbol. [Click here](#) to view the Style Guide and Graphic Standards.

Online Programs Offering Unauthorized GED Credentials

GED Testing Service has developed a marketing publication to warn consumers about online entities purporting to offer the GED credential or testing. [Click here](#) to view the publication.

Important Changes to BEST Scores

The Center for Applied Linguistics (CAL) has informed KYAE that score ranges for the BEST Literacy assessment have been realigned to educational levels within the National Reporting System (NRS). Beginning July 1, 2008, these changes will affect the NRS level of students enrolled and post-tested on the BEST assessment. Please [click here](#) to read information from CAL about this issue.

COABE Awards and Grants

COABE offers awards, incentive grants and scholarships to members to provide financial support for small special projects or advanced study in adult education. COABE members are eligible to compete or nominate individuals for these prestigious awards. Winners receive stipends and special grants.

Please visit www.coabe.org and click on awards and grants for more details! All applications are due by December 1, 2008.

Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Award

Presented by the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) and Toyota, the Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Award is given to educators who demonstrate exemplary efforts to help parents and children achieve their academic and non-academic goals.

The 2009 Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year will receive a \$7,500 award for his/her program, courtesy of Toyota. He/she also will receive a trip to the 18th Annual National Conference on Family Literacy in Orlando, Florida, where he/she will be recognized during the Opening General Session.

Please visit <http://www.famlit.org/toyotateacher> for nomination guidelines. Nominations will be accepted online through **December 5, 2008!**

Mileage Reimbursement Rate

The mileage reimbursement rate for state travel is 49 cents per mile for October 1 – December 31, 2008. More information about travel rates is available by [clicking here](#).

Valuable Links

Adult educators can [download free health literacy materials](#) developed by the Joint Commission, together with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, and aimed at improving medical treatment through better doctor-patient communication. Materials, including a video and pamphlets in English and Spanish, teach patients, for example, how to prevent medication mistakes or infection. The campaign is part of the Joint Commission's patient Speak Up safety program.

Adults with low-level reading skills now can learn basic computer and Internet search skills while they practice reading and writing using a free online course developed by the partnership of ProLiteracy and Superpages.com®. The course is designed for adults with a fifth grade reading level and who are familiar with computers and the Internet. The course, Getting Started with Superpages.com, a PDF of the Teacher's Notes, and a PDF of the Student Workbook can be found at www.superpages.com/adultlearners.